An Explanation and Key to the
Water Body Identification (WBID) System

The WBID system is the primary way the WQCD identifies and segregates differing surface water bodies (stream, lakes, and wetlands) from each other in the State of Colorado. Within the 8-10 character alphanumeric WBID are included the State, major river basin, river sub-basin, and segment number. All WBIDs start out with the letters CO signifying Colorado. The third and fourth letters signify the major stream basin (i.e. (South Platte, Arkansas, Rio Grande, etc…). The fifth and sixth letter signify the stream sub-basin (i.e. Upper, Middle, or Lower, Clear Ck., Cherry Ck., Boulder Ck., etc…). The seventh through tenth characters designate the specific stream segment, and these numbers are the same as those found in the Classifications and Numeric Standards for each basin.

Example: COARUA01A = State of Colorado, Arkansas River Basin, Upper
              Arkansas River Sub-basin, Segment 1A

The names of the tributaries of stream sub-basins do not utilize their water body names in the WBID, and the segment number is used to delineate these water bodies. The descriptions of the water bodies identified by each WBID are also the same as the Segment Descriptions in each Basin's Classifications and Numeric Standards. Below is a key to the WBID used by the WQCD.

A) Letters one and two (State)
        B) Letters three and four (Major Basin)
                C) Letters five and six (Sub-basin)

A) CO = State of Colorado

        B) SP = South Platte River Basin

                C)   **US** = Upper South Platte River Sub-basin
                            BE = Bear Creek Sub-basin
                            CH = Cherry Creek Sub-basin
                            CL = Clear Creek Sub-basin
                            BD = Big Dry Creek Sub-basin
                            BO = Boulder Creek Sub-basin
                            SV = St. Vrain Creek Sub-basin
                            MS = Middle South Platte River Sub-basin
                            BT = Big Thompson River Sub-basin
                            CP = Cache la Poudre River Sub-basin
                            LR = Laramie River Sub-basin
                            LS = Lower South Platte River Sub-basin
                            RE = Republican River Sub-basin

B) UC = Upper Colorado River and North Platte River Basins

        C)   **UC** = Upper Colorado River Sub-basin
                  BL = Blue River Sub-basin
                  EA = Eagle River Sub-basin
                  RF = Roaring Fork River Sub-basin
                  NP = North Platte River Sub-basin
                  YA = Yampa River Sub-basin

B) LC = Lower Colorado River Basin

        C)   **LY** = Lower Yampa River Sub-basin
                  WH = White River Sub-basin
                  LC = Lower Colorado River Sub-basin

B) AR = Arkansas River Basin

        C)   **UA** = Upper Arkansas River Sub-basin
                  MA = Middle Arkansas River Sub-basin
                  FO = Fountain Creek Sub-basin
                  LA = Lower Arkansas River Sub-basin
                  CI = Cimarron River Sub-basin

B) RG = Rio Grande River Basin

        C)   **RG** = Rio Grande River Sub-basin
                  AL = Alamosa River/LaJara Creek/Conejos Creek Sub-basins
                  CB = Closed Basin - San Luis Valley Sub-basin

B) GU = Gunnison and Lower Dolores River Basins

        C)   **UG** = Upper Gunnison River Sub-basin
                  NF = North Fork of the Gunnison River Sub-basin
                  UN = Uncompahgre River Sub-basin
                  LG = Lower Gunnison River Sub-basin
                  SM = Sam Miguel River Sub-basin
                  LD = Lower Dolores River Sub-basin

B) SJ = San Juan and Dolores River Basins

        C)   **SJ** = San Juan River Sub-basin
                  PI = Piedra River Sub-basin
                  PN = Los Pinos River Sub-basin
                  AF = Animas and Florida River Sub-basins
                  LP = La Plata River, Mancos River, McElmo Creek and San Juan
                  River in Montezuma and Dolores Counties Sub-basins
                  DO = Dolores River Sub-basin